APPEARING IN

MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

FOUR UNIQUE ACTS

HEAD IN A LION'S MOUTH

WANDER THE MAGICAL MAZE WITH JAMES FORTEY
ANIMAL TAMER EXTRAORDINAIRE AND FATHER OF THREE!

THE WORLD IN FLAMES

GAZE INTO MYOPIC ROBERT MOULDER'S CRYSTAL BALL
ASTONISHING REVELATIONS!
IS THERE LIFE AFTER THE TORY GOVERNMENT?

TWELVE INCHES OF COLD STEEL

MARTIN McCRORY SWORD SWALLOWER
VERBAL THRUT AND CUST
IN A DISPLAY OF DAZZLING DYSLEXIC DEXTERITY!

TERRIFYING RISK TO LIFE AND LIMB

THE ANONYMOUS GEOFF CHAMBERS—HUMAN CANNONBALL
EXPELLED FROM THE EARTH'S BOWELS!

GRAND PARADE

BROUGHT TO YOU AT GREAT EXPENSE
WONDERS OF MANY MINDS
APPEARING HERE AND IN FUTURE ISSUES OF

MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

PREVIEW ISSUE

35p

MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES



INSIDE

NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST! –WE GO INTO THE MAGGIEBUNKER!

TALES FROM OLDE LONDON

PLUS

A NEW HERO WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Editorial
A Fishing Expedition

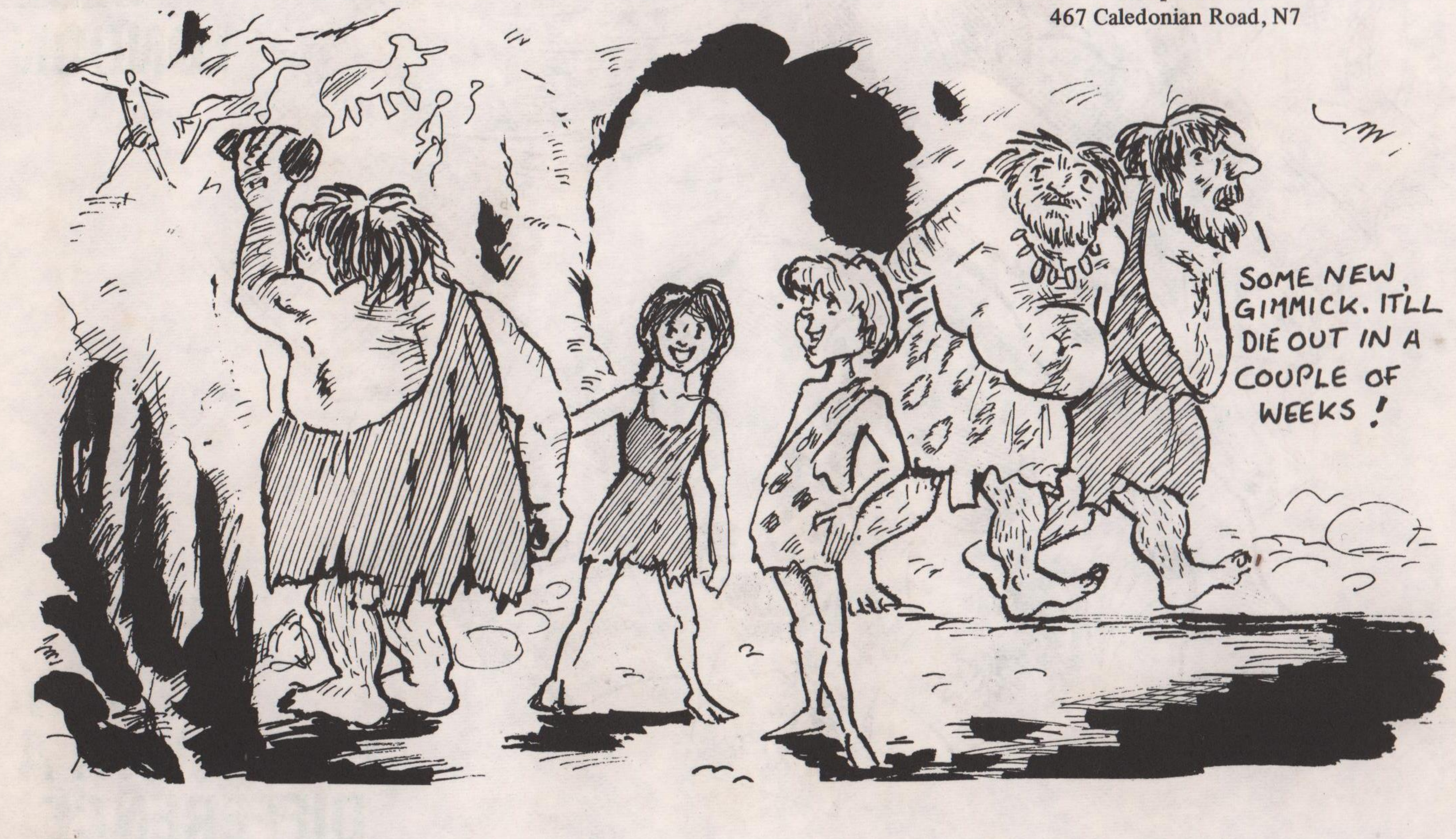
Why a special preview issue? The answer is that the people involved in the production of this magazine are indulging in a spot of fishing, and what they're hoping to land is you – the reader.

Miraculous Circumstances, originally conceived of over 18 months ago and named after an old Regency Broadsheet, is intended to be a regular 32 page strip cartoon magazine. Bi-monthly to start with (the eventual aim is to produce a montly magazine) it will be produced and published by the writers and artists collectively and will feature at least two extended serial strips each issue. Take a look at the special preview pages and you'll see the high quality of work that we plan to bring you in future issues. Whether these strips, plotted and drawn with meticulous and loving care, reach the audience we think they deserve, depends entirely on that most important ingredient of any magazine; its readership.

The economics of small publications are horrifying: 2/3 of the cover prices goes on distribution alone, so if you subscribe, our share of the cover price soars. A profit which we can then put back into providing a bigger, better magazine. Our success depends, not on persuading you to buy this publication at your local newsagent, but in getting you to subscribe direct.

To give you a taste of things to come and because we want to get everything right from the start, we asked some of the writers and artists involved to come up with some one off strips, which together with our preview pages make up this low priced 16 page sampler. If you like what you see, write and let us know. If you have any criticisms write and tell us while we still have time to do something about it. All your letters will be welcomed; we might not be able to reply to every one personally, but you will have our sincere gratitude.

Miraculous Circumstances will not be one of those magazines that appear only to disappear almost instantaneously; too much hard work has gone into it for us to allow that to happen. The original M.C. lasted for exactly one issue back in the 1820's. We intend to do a whole lot better than that and you can help by subscribing NOW! Have we got you hooked yet? Read the magazine carefully and then let us know. We'll still be sitting here, fishing.



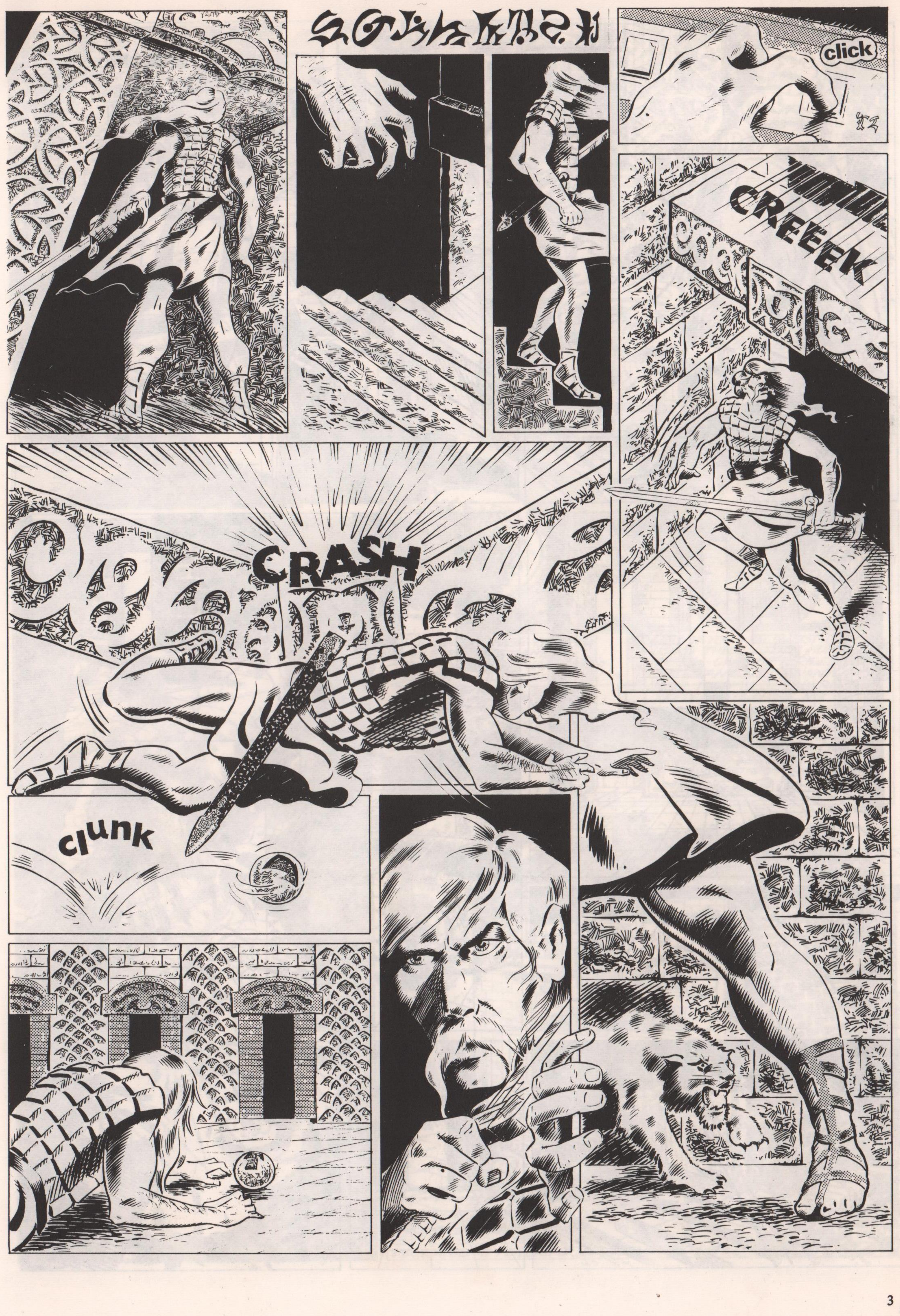
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Subscriptions

At the moment we have fixed neither a price nor a date for our next issue. We will, however, retail it to subscribers for not more than 60p. If you are interested send us a cheque/postal order made payable to Luddite Enterprises for the above amount. If we can make Miraculous Circumstances any cheaper we will refund the difference.

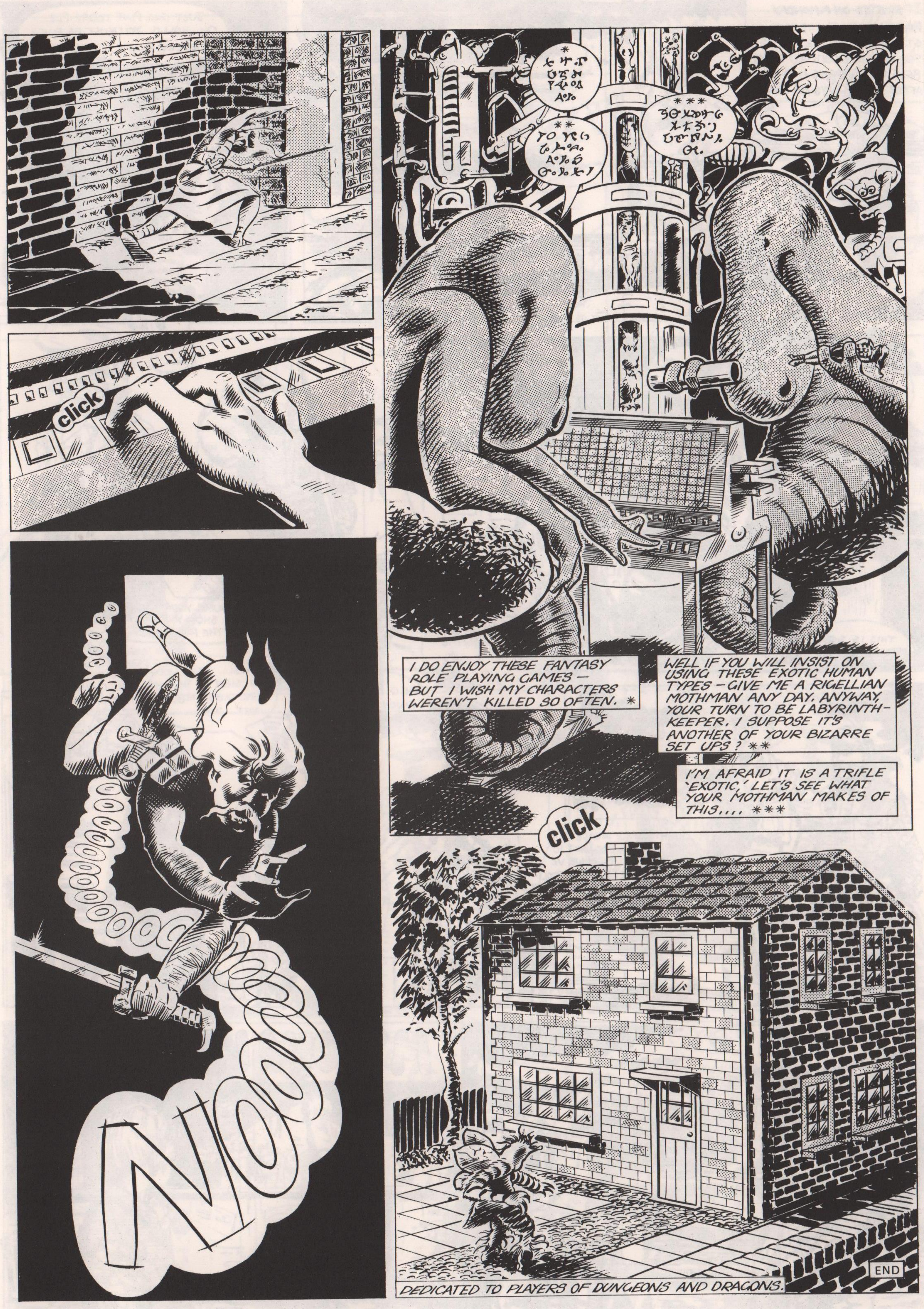
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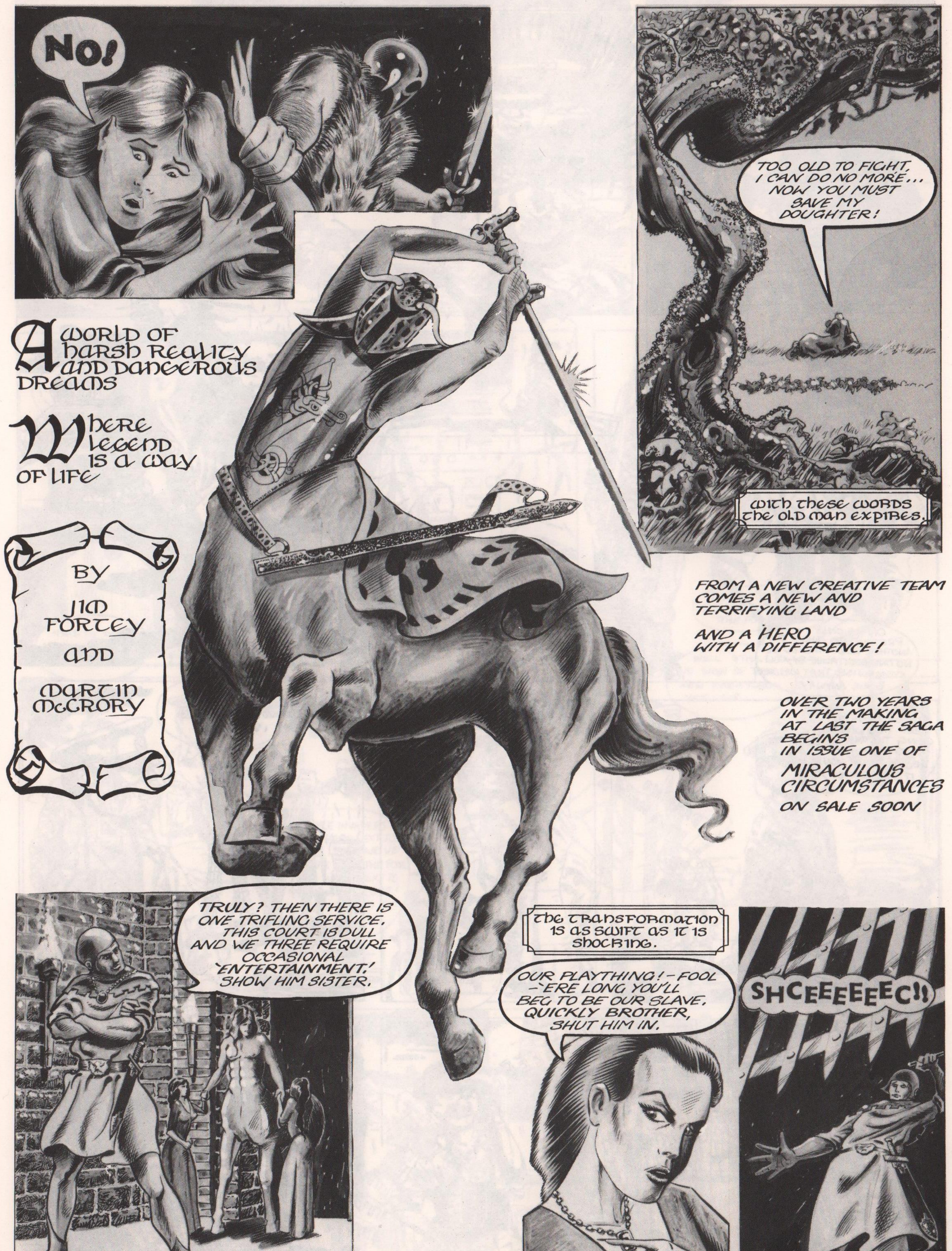
SPLUT
RRR!
click



click
NOOOO
I DO ENJOY THESE FANTASY ROLE PLAYING GAMES — BUT I WISH MY CHARACTERS WEREN'T KILLED SO OFTEN. *
WELL IF YOU WILL INSIST ON USING THESE EXOTIC HUMAN TYPES – GIVE ME A RIGELLIAN MOTHMAN ANY DAY. ANYWAY, YOUR TURN TO BE LABYRINTH-KEEPER. I SUPPOSE IT'S ANOTHER OF YOUR BIZARRE SET UPS ? **
I'M AFRAID IT IS A TRIFLE 'EXOTIC,' LET'S SEE WHAT YOUR MOTHMAN MAKES OF THIS.... ***
click
END
DEDICATED TO PLAYERS OF DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS.


IT STARTED ON A MONDAY MORNING – BY TUESDAY A STALEMATE HAD SET IN. THE FRONT LINE STRETCHED FROM BEIRUT TO WAPPING AND NOW AFTER 3000 DAYS OF WAR....
HELLO! IS ANY ONE THERE ?!
HQ
WEST HAM KILL
NF
JUST ONE PINT TODAY PLE.... OH HALLO YOU MUST BE FINCH OUR NEW CHAP! ... COME IN!
HI MAN!
SARGE
THIS IS SGT-MAJOR WILSON ....
AND I'M CAPTAIN CHIPPERHAM, THE O.C. HERE.......
DUMP YOUR STUFF! I'LL SHOW YOU ROUND THE POST.....
RIGHT! SPACE INVADERS ARE OVER THERE NEXT TO THE DISCO.... THEN WE'VE GOT THE BAR AND THE POOL HALL OVER HERE NEXT TO THE SEX SHOP.....COME! I'LL TAKE YOU OVER TO THE STORES.........
AH Q.M. THIS IS FINCH.... HOW ARE THINGS GOING?
WELL STILL NO SIGN OF THAT NEW ABBA ALBUM YET SIR......
McDONALDS
ARMY CATERING
OK I'LL CHASE IT UP....... AH FANCY A BURGER FINCH..... PIZZA'S ARE NEXT TO THE PUB


ITS BEEN PRETTY QUIET HERE LATELY .. NOT BEEN MUCH ACTION....
ЯПОЛЬА ЕШАЯ * !!
BANG!! BANG! BANG! BANG!
WAS'NT THAT AN ENEMY SOLDIER SIR? WHY DIDN'T YOU SHOOT HIM?
OH WE ONLY PRETEND TO SHOOT ONE ANOTHER NOW. – THERE'D BE NO ONE LEFT ALIVE BY NOW OTHERWISE. THAT WAS ONLY BORIS ANYWAY....
NO FINCH, ITS UP TO US TO KEEP THIS WAR GOING TILL THE POLITICIANS, CAN DECIDE WHOSE WON IT.... ER EXCUSE ME....
DRRRING DRING DRING
CHIPPERHAM SPEAKING.... .... YES..... YES ...... GREAT!
GOOD NEWS CHAPS!...... WORLD WAR III IS OVER!
??
DRRRNG DRING DRING
WWWHEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
CHIPPERHAM.... YES... YES.. WHAT! WORLD WAR FOUR HAS JUST STARTED
CRUMP!


NO!
A WORLD OF HARSH REALITY AND DANGEROUS DREAMS
WHERE LEGEND IS A WAY OF LIFE
BY JIM FORTEY AND MARTIN McCRORY
TOO OLD TO FIGHT, I CAN DO NO MORE... NOW YOU MUST SAVE MY DOUGHTER!
WITH THESE WORDS THE OLD MAN EXPIRES.
FROM A NEW CREATIVE TEAM COMES A NEW AND TERRIFYING LAND
AND A HERO WITH A DIFFERENCE!
OVER TWO YEARS IN THE MAKING AT LAST THE SAGA BEGINS IN ISSUE ONE OF MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES ON SALE SOON
TRULY? THEN THERE IS ONE TRIFLING SERVICE. THIS COURT IS DULL AND WE THREE REQUIRE OCCASIONAL 'ENTERTAINMENT.' SHOW HIM SISTER.
THE TRANSFORMATION IS AS SWIFT AS IT IS SHOCKING.
OUR PLAYTHING! —FOOL —ERE LONG YOU'LL BEG TO BE OUR SLAVE. QUICKLY BROTHER, SHUT HIM IN.
SHCEEEEEEC!!


THE TREE STANDS: A MUTE MONUMENT TO THE OLD MAN'S SPIRIT. IT IS A PLACE OF BITTER MEMORIES, HAUNTED BY REGRET FOR WHAT HAS PASSED.
NOW HAUNTED ALSO BY THE MORE TANGIBLE PRESENT.
DANGER DROPS FROM THE AIR. UPON THE UNWARY TRAVELLER. IS NO PLACE SACRED IN THIS FEARSOME LAND? TRUELY, IN THE END IS THE BEGINNING, AND LIKE A TURNING CIRCLE HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF...

more thrilling tales of world war three







(TO BE CONTINUED)





AS THE MUCKRAKERS MEETING BREAKS UP, STRANGE EVENTS ARE UNFOLDING AT BAYNARD'S CASTLE* - A GRIM MEDIEVAL FORTRESS WHICH IN FORMER TIMES HAD BEEN A ROYAL RESIDENCE BUT NOW SERVED AS A PRISON............
THIEVES, MURDERERS, DEBTORS ARE ALL HOUSED IN THIS CASTLE. BUT DOWN IN THE CRYPT ARE A SPECIAL CATEGORY, FOR HERE ARE THE WITCHES, WARLOCKS AND NECROMANCERS - ALL CONDEMNED TO DEATH AND ALL COMPLETELY INNOCENT................
GIVE FOOD! FOR PITY SAKE
'OW ABOUT SOME HUSH! CAN'T A MAN EAT 'IS DINNER IN PEACE?.......
WATCHING OVER THEM IS THE TURNKEY - LUGWORM
ONE OF THE PRISONERS IS TOBY PERKIN........
ARISE WITCH! THE FIRES OF HELL AWAIT YOUR RETURN!!
SO YOU WON'T BE NEEDING A COAT LUV! (SNIGGER)
LORD LOOK DOWN ON THIS CREATURE
SERVANT OF SATAN
NEVER MIND LAD WIV ANY LUCK THE ROPE'LL BREAK YER NECK BEFORE IT CHOKES YER TE DEAF!
R-R-ROPE!? BUT I THOUGHT W-W-WITCHES WERE BURNT AT THE STAKE.........NOT THAT IT MAKES MUCH DIFFERENCE I S'POSE...ULP
NAA! BURNING AT THE STAKE IS TOO EXPENSIVE.....GOVERNMENT CUTBACKS......CHEAPER T'USE ME OLD DEAR'S WASHING LINE THAN BURN ALL THAT WOOD N' BINDINGS
ON THIS BLEAK DAY THE DOOR TO TOBY'S CELL OPENS AND......
DUE TO THE BAD WEATHER AND THE TENSE ATMOSPHERE IN THE CITY, THE HANGINGS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT IN SECRET ON A RICKETTY OLD GALLOWS IN THE CASTLE COURTYARD..............
NOW WHERE'S THAT HANGMAN GOT TO - WE'VE GOT ANOTHER TEN HANGINGS TO GET THROUGH YET
THE HANGMAN'S NOT 'ERE.... E' SAID E' FELT 'ANGING HAD BE-COME A DEBASED, OVERSUBSCRIBED, POPULARIST ARTFORM AN' AS SUCH E' IS UNABLE T'PERFORM UNTIL E'S EVOLVED NEW CONCEPTS N' NEW VALUES THAT SUFFICIENTLY EQUATE THE CONTRADICTIONS THAT ARE INHERENT IN SOCIETY, VIS A VIS THE ....
*BAYNARD'S CASTLE STOOD CLOSE TO THE PRESENT DAY SITE OF BLACKFRIARS STATION.



CUT THE DRIVEL! GET THAT SWINE OUT HERE IMMEDIATELY!!
BUT TEN MINUTES LATER.....
ER E' SES E' UNDERSTANDS E' MAY BE INCONVENIENCING YOU, BUT E' FEELS IT WOULD LACK INTEGRITY T'PERFORM ANY 'ANGINGS AT THE MOMENT.
OH GOD, THIS ISN'T HAPPEN-ING. OK WELL HANG THIS ONE OURSELVES AND ILL DEAL WITH THAT BASTARD LATER.........
RIGHT THAT SHOULD DO.....NOW! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO LUGWORM IS TO PULL THAT LEVER!
NOT YET! YOU.......
CRACK
BUT TWO BODIES ARE TOO MUCH FOR THE OLD GALLOWS AND.........
.....IDIOT!
CRASH! THUD CRUMP!
CAPTAIN FLETTON!? YOU ALRIGHT GUVNOR?......
LUGWORM!.....GET ME OUT OF HERE!!!
DON'T YOU BE CAUGHT HANGING AROUND - ORDER YOUR COPY OF MIRACULOUS CIRCUMSTANCES NOW!